

(WASHINGTON, DC) - Congressman Rob Wittman released the following statement regarding OPEC's decision last night to cut production:

"With oil closing in on \$100 per barrel, OPEC decided to cut production and the price of crude oil jumped. This clearly demonstrates why we need to develop our own domestic sources of energy to serve as a bridge until we can permanently reduce our dependence on foreign oil," said Wittman.

"Increasing domestic production will reduce our exposure to the influence of oil exporting countries and will limit their ability to artificially manipulate the market at will," said Wittman.

"OPEC's action yesterday should serve as a clear signal that Congress must act quickly on comprehensive energy legislation that includes tapping into our domestic sources of oil and natural gas, encouraging conservation and efficiency, increasing refinery capacity and nuclear energy production, and investing in renewable sources like wind, solar and hydroelectric power," said Wittman.